GI Bill: A Real American Hero

The Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, often referred to as the GI Bill, was passed by the federal government to assist US veterans returning home after their service in World War II. It provided various kinds of such as support in the form of unemployment support, 1 benefits and mortgage assistance. The GI Bill is best known, however, for the education and training assistance 2 they provided veterans. By 1956, the bill had enabled nearly eight million veterans to pursue higher education and training opportunities. The resulting influx of students had a dramatic effect on higher education in the United States. 3 This sharp increase primarily took place during the post-war years. In that relatively short time, the GI Bill engendered long-lasting changes in the landscape of US higher education.



College Enrollment Growth Rates in the United States, by Decade

Source: Data from National Center for Education Statistics

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) which included these types of support:
- C) including a variety of assistance in the areas of
- D) including

A) NO CHANGE

B) it

2

- C) this
- D) that

3

At this point, the writer wants to use accurate and relevant data from the graph to elaborate on the claim made in the previous sentence. Which choice most effectively accomplishes this goal?

- A) The college enrollment growth rate was at its highest between 1869 and 1879.
- B) From 1939 to 1949, the college enrollment growth rate jumped to nearly 80 percent from a rate of approximately 35 percent the preceding ten years.
- C) One of the most dramatic decreases in college enrollment occurred between 1959 and 1969, when the growth rate fell to less than a third of that of the previous decade.
- D) More students matriculated between 1919 to 1929 than in the post-World War II period.



Under the provisions of the 1944 GI Bill, veterans received financial support to take academic, technical, or vocational classes. For a variety of reasons—to build on their technical military experience, 4 to support their families, or perhaps to retrain and become competitive in a pre-war professional career—many veterans chose the second or third option. Whether they enrolled in a technical engineering class or a vocational class on auto-repair, 5 they're overarching objectives were to become employed. According to a survey analysis, veterans returning to the University of Illinois had 6 one "predominating request": an efficient course of study to prepare for a job.

4

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) supporting their families,
- C) family support,
- D) they wanted to support families,

5

A) NO CHANGE

- B) their
- C) there
- D) they are

6

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) one, "predominating request":
- C) one, "predominating request";
- D) one "predominating request";



Many new programs began to emerge in response to the rising demand for job-oriented training and education. For example, a proposal to expand the programs for technical and general education in New York surfaced as early as 7 1944. The State University of New York (SUNY) was subsequently founded in 1948. Massachusetts' Stonehill College, which 8 <u>has</u> <u>been</u> established in the same year, estimates that veterans comprised up to a third of its first entering class. 9 <u>Some vocational training programs were</u> <u>even created specifically for the benefit of returning</u> <u>veterans.</u> One of the most unique examples in this category is the Culinary Institute of America, founded in 1946 to offer 10 <u>a novel curriculum for learning</u> <u>cooking stuff.</u>

By opening the gates of higher education to veterans, the GI Bill 11 dramatically increased the college enrollment growth rate. The bill is credited with producing 500,000 engineers, 250,000 teachers, 200,000 medical professionals, and 117,000 metal workers. At that time, this was the most highly educated workforce in the country's history.

7

Which choice most effectively combines the sentences at the underlined portion?

- A) 1944, because the
- B) 1944, whereas the
- C) 1944; the
- D) 1944; however, the

8

A) NO CHANGE

- B) will be
- C) is
- D) was

9

Which choice provides the most effective transition at this point?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) Eventually, these numbers would taper off.
- C) Nevertheless, the GI Bill had a long-lasting impact on the demographics of higher education.
- D) Nor were these figures unique to one college.

10

A) NO CHANGE

- B) a new bunch of courses in the culinary arts.
- C) an unprecedented curriculum in the culinary arts.
- D) a never-been-done-before batch of classes on cooking.

11

Which choice most effectively asserts the claim supported by the rest of the paragraph?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) eased the transition for the millions of veterans returning home after their military service.
- C) shaped not only colleges and training programs but also the workforce as a whole.
- D) transformed the demographics of colleges all over the United States.

